

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/517,617

Examiner

Nguyen T. Ha

Applicant(s)

SUENAGA ET AL.

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**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/4/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

NGUYEN T. HA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

1. The examiner acknowledges the applicant's submission of the amendment dated 4/4/2007. At this point, claims 16-17 have been added. Thus claims 1-17 are pending in the instant application.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. The applicant's argument that Ohi et al. fail to disclose a molding for an anode element having valve action metal layer which includes valve action metal powder and binder resin, the molding comprising a region having resin as its main component for protecting the valve action metal layer in at least one surface of the molding, and the molding has a protective layer and a porous body-forming layer, wherein the protective layer has resin as a main component, and the porous body-forming layer has valve action metal powder and binder resin. The examiner found this argument persuasive. Therefore, the examiner made decision to allow these limitations over the prior art of record.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1-17 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claims 1 & 16, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of a molding for an electrolytic capacitor anode element having valve action metal layer which includes valve action metal powder and binder resin, the

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molding comprising a region having resin as its main component for protecting the valve action metal layer in at least one surface of the molding.

With respect to claims 2-10, and 17, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of a molding with a substratum comprising a protective layer and a porous body-forming layer, wherein the protective layer has resin as a main component, and the porous body-forming layer has valve action metal powder and binder resin.

With respect to claims 11, and 13-15, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of a production method for a molding with a substratum comprising a step for forming a protective layer having a resin as a main component on a sheet-shaped substratum, and a step for forming a porous body forming layer having valve action metal powder and binder resin on the protective layer, wherein the adhesive strength between the protective layer and the porous body forming layer is made to be greater than the adhesive strength between the substratum and the protective layer.

With respect to claim 12, the prior art alone or in combination does not teach the limitation of a production method for a molding with a substratum comprising: a step for forming a coated film by coating a paint that includes valve action metal powder and binder resin on a sheet shaped substratum, and a protective layer having resin as a main component positioned on the surface of the porous body forming layer, by settling down the valve action metal powder in the coated film.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

#### **Citation Relevant of Prior Art**

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Monden et al. (US 6,783,703) disclose solid electrolytic capacitor and method for producing the same.

b. Shoji et al. (US 6,426,866) disclose solid electrolytic capacitor and method of manufacturing the same.

c. Ohata et al. (US 6,556,427) disclose solid electrolytic capacitor and method.

d. Yokoyama et al. (US 5,847,188) disclose carbonate compounds, non-aqueous electrolytic solutions and batteries.

#### **Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nguyen T. Ha whose telephone number is 571-272-1974. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30AM to 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean Reichard can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext. 31. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

NGUYEN T/HA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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July 6, 2007